

health, safety, and well-being of others present in the Chamber and surrounding areas. Members and staff will not be permitted to enter the Hall of the House without wearing a mask. Masks will be available at the entry points for any Member who forgets to bring one. The Chair views the failure to wear a mask as a serious breach of decorum. The Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to enforce this policy. Based upon the health and safety guidance from the attending physician and the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Chair would further advise that all Members should leave the Chamber promptly after casting their votes. Furthermore, Members should avoid congregating in the rooms leading to the Chamber, including the Speaker's lobby. The Chair will continue the practice of providing small groups of Members with a minimum of 5 minutes within which to cast their votes. Members are encouraged to vote with their previously assigned group. After voting, Members must clear the Chamber to allow the next group a safe and sufficient opportunity to vote. It is essential for the health and safety of Members, staff, and the U.S. Capitol Police to consistently practice social distancing and to ensure that a safe capacity be maintained in the Chamber at all times. To that end, the Chair appreciates the cooperation of Members and staff in preserving order and decorum in the Chamber and in displaying respect and safety for one another by wearing a mask and practicing social distancing. All announced policies, including those addressing decorum in debate and the conduct of votes by electronic device, shall be carried out in harmony with this policy during the pendency of a covered period.

#### 117TH CONGRESS REGULATIONS FOR USE OF DEPOSITION AUTHORITY

COMMITTEE ON RULES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 4, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 3(b) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, I hereby submit the following regulations regarding the conduct of depositions by committee and select committee counsel for printing in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCGOVERN,  
Chairman, Committee on Rules.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF DEPOSITION AUTHORITY

1. Notices for the taking of depositions shall specify the date, time, and place of examination. Depositions shall be taken under oath administered by a member or a person otherwise authorized to administer oaths. Depositions may continue from day to day.

2. Consultation with the ranking minority member shall include three days' notice before any deposition is taken. All members of the committee shall also receive three days written notice that a deposition will be taken, except in exigent circumstances. For purposes of these procedures, a day shall not include Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such a day.

3. Witnesses may be accompanied at a deposition by personal, nongovernmental counsel to advise them of their rights. Only members, committee staff designated by the chair or ranking minority member, an official reporter, the witness, and the witness's counsel are permitted to attend. Observers or counsel for other persons, including counsel for government agencies, may not attend.

4. The chair of the committee noticing the deposition may designate that deposition as part of a joint investigation between committees, and in that case, provide notice to the members of the committees. If such a designation is made, the chair and ranking minority member of the additional committee(s) may designate committee staff to attend pursuant to regulation 3. Members and designated staff of the committees may attend and ask questions as set forth below.

5. A deposition shall be conducted by any member or committee counsel designated by the chair or ranking minority member of the Committee that noticed the deposition. When depositions are conducted by committee counsel, there shall be no more than two committee counsel permitted to question a witness per round. One of the committee counsel shall be designated by the chair and the other by the ranking minority member per round.

6. Deposition questions shall be propounded in rounds. The length of each round shall not exceed 60 minutes per side, and shall provide equal time to the majority and the minority. In each round, the member(s) or committee counsel designated by the chair shall ask questions first, and the member(s) or committee counsel designated by the ranking minority member shall ask questions second.

7. Objections must be stated concisely and in a non-argumentative and non-suggestive manner. A witness's counsel may not instruct a witness to refuse to answer a question, except to preserve a privilege. In the event of professional, ethical, or other misconduct by the witness's counsel during the deposition, the Committee may take any appropriate disciplinary action. The witness may refuse to answer a question only to preserve a privilege. When the witness has refused to answer a question to preserve a privilege, members or staff may (i) proceed with the deposition, or (ii) either at that time or at a subsequent time, seek a ruling from the Chair either by telephone or otherwise. If the Chair overrules any such objection and thereby orders a witness to answer any question to which an objection was lodged, the witness shall be ordered to answer. If a member of the committee chooses to appeal the ruling of the chair, such appeal must be made within three days, in writing, and shall be preserved for committee consideration. The Committee's ruling on appeal shall be filed with the clerk of the Committee and shall be provided to the members and witness no less than three days before the reconvened deposition. A deponent who refuses to answer a question after being directed to answer by the chair may be subject to sanction, except that no sanctions may be imposed if the ruling of the chair is reversed by the committee on appeal.

8. The Committee chair shall ensure that the testimony is either transcribed or electronically recorded or both. If a witness's testimony is transcribed, the witness or the witness's counsel shall be afforded an opportunity to review a copy. No later than five days after the witness has been notified of the opportunity to review the transcript, the witness may submit suggested changes to the chair. Committee staff may make any typographical and technical changes. Substantive changes, modifications, clarifications, or amendments to the deposition transcript submitted by the witness must be accompanied by a letter signed by the witness requesting the changes and a statement of the witness's reasons for each proposed change. Any substantive changes, modifications, clarifications, or amendments shall be included as an appendix to the transcript conditioned upon the witness signing the transcript.

9. The individual administering the oath, if other than a member, shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn. The transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony, and the transcript shall be filed, together with any electronic recording, with the clerk of the committee in Washington, DC. Depositions shall be considered to have been taken in Washington, DC, as well as the location actually taken once filed there with the clerk of the committee for the committee's use. The chair and the ranking minority member shall be provided with a copy of the transcripts of the deposition at the same time.

10. The chair and ranking minority member shall consult regarding the release of deposition testimony, transcripts, or recordings, and portions thereof. If either objects in writing to a proposed release of a deposition testimony, transcript, or recording, or a portion thereof, the matter shall be promptly referred to the committee for resolution.

11. A witness shall not be required to testify unless the witness has been provided with a copy of section 3(b) of H. Res. 8, 117th Congress, and these regulations.

#### REMOTE COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

COMMITTEE ON RULES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 4, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, I hereby submit the following regulations regarding remote committee proceedings for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCGOVERN,  
Chairman,  
Committee on Rules.

#### REMOTE COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8

##### A. PRESENCE AND VOTING

1. Members participating remotely in a committee proceeding must be visible on the software platform's video function to be considered in attendance and to participate unless connectivity issues or other technical problems render the member unable to fully participate on camera (except as provided in regulations A.2 and A.3).

2. The exception in regulation A.1 for connectivity issues or other technical problems does not apply if a point of order has been made that a quorum is not present. Members participating remotely must be visible on the software platform's video function in order to be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

3. The exception in regulation A.1 for connectivity issues or other technical problems does not apply during a vote. Members participating remotely must be visible on the software platform's video function in order to vote.

4. Members participating remotely off-camera due to connectivity issues or other technical problems pursuant to regulation A.1 must inform committee majority and minority staff either directly or through staff.

5. The chair shall make a good faith effort to provide every member experiencing connectivity issues an opportunity to participate fully in the proceedings, subject to regulations A.2 and A.3.

6. Members may not participate in more than one committee proceeding simultaneously. To facilitate secure remote participation, members may maintain a connection to a software platform while not in attendance (but may not transmit video or audio on the software platform at such times).

#### B. TECHNOLOGY

1. When a proceeding is conducted at a remote “place” pursuant to section 4(a)(6) of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress, streaming the proceeding on the committee’s website constitutes sufficient public, Member, and press access for the purposes of section 4(e) of such resolution. Proceedings may be streamed on a reasonably short delay if necessary for technical reasons.

2. Any text based or private messaging function in the software platform used for virtual proceedings must be disabled unless it is used to provide technical or logistical support to members, witnesses, or staff, which may be excluded from the public video stream and will not be considered a committee record.

3. When providing notice of a remote proceeding, chairs must also provide notice of the software platform to be used for participation. Notice of such software platform constitutes proper notice of a “place” for purposes of section 4(a)(6) of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress.

4. Members participating remotely must be provided access to technical support via telephone throughout any proceeding.

5. Only members, witnesses, temporarily designated participating staff, and necessary support staff may have participatory access on the software platform, meaning access which enables an individual to speak and be seen, as opposed to simply viewing the proceeding.

6. The committee majority staff, in consultation with the committee minority staff, must prepare a list of names or titles of individuals with participatory access on the software platform and share the list with members at least 24 hours prior to any proceeding, to the greatest extent practicable.

7. Official reporters should be given direct access to the platform itself rather than the livestream.

8. Members of the press and the public may view remote proceedings via the committee website, as outlined in regulation B.1.

9. Committees must conduct remote proceedings using software platforms certified by the Chief Administrative Officer. The Chief Administrative Officer should inform committees, including the ranking minority members, each time a software platform is certified.

10. To the greatest extent practicable, the software platform used for remote proceedings must enable participants to view proceedings in a “grid view” format.

11. Committee chairs should inform the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration of any impactful technical issues arising from conducting proceedings remotely.

#### C. DELIBERATIONS

1. Committee chairs must allow members participating remotely reasonable latitude when they are seeking recognition for motions, points of order, or any other procedures where timeliness is a factor in the event that there are problems with technology such as lag or having the microphone muted.

2. Members seeking recognition while participating remotely must do so verbally and identify themselves to the chair. It is the responsibility of the member seeking recognition to unmute their microphone prior to speaking.

3. No one may unmute a member’s microphone absent an explicit request from the member, which may be via another channel.

4. The chair or an individual designated by the chair may mute participants’ microphones when they are not under recognition for the purposes of eliminating inadvertent background noise. This policy must be carried out uniformly and should be announced at the outset of the proceeding. Members should have a clear understanding of the need to unmute their microphone each time they wish to speak.

#### D. DECORUM

1. Member microphones may not be muted for the purposes of enforcing decorum.

2. Members participating remotely must conform to the same standards for proper attire as are required to participate in a committee proceeding in person.

3. Members and witnesses participating remotely should appear before a nonpolitical, professionally appropriate background that is minimally distracting to other members and witnesses, to the greatest extent possible.

4. Members are expected to follow proper decorum with respect to the display of exhibits when participating remotely and should refrain from displaying an exhibit when not under recognition.

#### E. COMMITTEE PROCESS

1. Committee chairs shall respect members’ disparate time zones when scheduling committee proceedings.

2. Committees shall provide an electronic repository, which may be an email inbox, for the submission of motions, amendments, and other documents pursuant to section 4(c)(3) of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress and shall notify members regarding how to properly submit documents electronically before and during a committee proceeding.

3. Pursuant to section 4(c)(5) of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress, in determining the order in which amendments to a measure or matter pending before a committee will be considered in a proceeding with remote participants, the chair may give priority to amendments, otherwise in order, that have been filed with the committee through the electronic repository at least 4 hours prior to the business meeting on said measure or matter.

4. Within 24 hours of declaring a recess pursuant to section 4(c)(2) of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress the chair shall notify members of the circumstances which required the recess to be declared.

5. Committees shall facilitate the maintenance of electronically-submitted documents as part of any committee record maintained pursuant to clause 2(e)(1) of rule XI.

#### F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Committee reports shall be filed in a single comprehensive submission including: (1) the report as a single electronic document; (2) the electronic files comprising such document; and (3) an electronic file containing the reported measure. Such committee reports shall not be officially processed unless all requirements are met, and properly filed reports shall be processed in the form submitted.

2. Committee reports filed electronically remain subject to all House rules regarding such reports to the extent consistent with House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress.

3. Except for reports submitted after the receipt of separate views pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XIII, committee reports filed electronically will be officially processed only when the House is in session. Committees must provide reasonable notice to the Clerk when the House is out of session prior to filing a report electronically upon receiving all separate views pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XIII.

4. Committees shall consult with the Clerk regarding the appropriate manner in which

to submit reports electronically pursuant to House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress.

5. Any committee report of activities submitted pursuant to clause 1(d)(I) of rule XI should include a list of proceedings conducted with remote participation.

#### G. WITNESSES

1. Witnesses participating remotely in a committee proceeding shall be visible onscreen within the software platform unless they are experiencing technical or connectivity issues.

2. Pursuant to section 4(c)(6) of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress, witness counsel should be allowed access on the remote proceeding software platform if they are not in the physical presence of the witness. It is recommended that counsel facilitate a separate secure line of communication with the witness. A witness may not be unmuted by any other individual and should be allowed to use such secure line of communication while testifying to confer with counsel.

3. A witness may not allow an individual not invited to testify to speak on the platform when the witness is testifying remotely. A committee chair may provide exceptions on occasions where other individuals are necessary to facilitate the witness participation in the hearing (e.g. translators).

#### H. DEPOSITIONS

1. Depositions conducted remotely shall continue to be subject to regulations, including supplemental regulations, submitted by the chair of the Committee on Rules pursuant to section 3(b)(2) of House Resolution 8.

#### I. DEFINITIONS

1. For purposes of section 4 of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress and these regulations, “proceedings” or “committee proceedings” refers to meetings, hearings, or depositions, as appropriate.

2. For purposes of section 4 of House Resolution 965 of the 116th Congress and these regulations, “remote” proceedings are proceedings conducted entirely through a software platform instead of at a physical location. “Remotely-attended” proceedings are proceedings in which one or more (or all) members are participating remotely. A member “participating remotely” is a member who is attending the proceeding using technology, and not in-person.

3. For purposes of these regulations, “mute” means to deactivate a microphone such that audio is not transmitted from the microphone to participants of the committee proceeding and “unmute” means to activate a microphone such that audio is transmitted from the microphone to participants of the committee proceeding.

### REMOTE VOTING BY PROXY REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON RULES,

Washington, DC, January 4, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, I hereby submit the following regulations regarding remote voting by proxy for printing in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCGOVERN,  
Chairman,  
Committee on Rules.